

17th Annual Spring Brain Conference

March 15-18, 2006 Sedona, Arizona

The Spring Brain Conference (SBC) was founded to foster interdisciplinary communication and interactions among scientists studying the many different aspects of brain function. The goal of the conference is to bring together top neuroscientists with varied backgrounds, interests and approaches to promote the development of new strategies to investigate and stimulate the development of new therapeutic approaches to disorders of the CNS. The informal but focused meeting



www.springbrain.org

format promotes direct interactions and discussion. The conference will consist of a general poster session along with 8-10 plenary sessions each organized around a central theme or topic. Opportunities exist for travel awards for post-doctoral and graduate student trainees along with participation in a Neuroscience outreach program for local high school students. For additional information contact Dr. Bob Yeziarski (ryeziarski@dental.ufl.edu) or visit the SBC website.

Targeting Teaser Winners

Congratulations to the puzzle solvers from our last newsletter. Each winner receives \$100 credit towards research product purchases from Advanced Targeting Systems.

The solution to the puzzle was:

Jumbles: ANEMIA
PRAGUE
CARBOHYDRATE
ESTER
GLYCOGEN
ENZYMOMOLOGY

Answer: GERTRUDE CORI

WINNERS: David Akopian, California State Univ Northridge
* Catherine Ulibarri, Washington State Univ, VCAPP * Purna Mukherjee, Boston College * Miriam Burton, Kansas State Univ, Anatomy & Physiology * Angela Finney, Panacea * Gillian Watson, Univ of Oxford, Laboratory of Physiology * Valerie Fritz, Frostberg State Univ, Biology * Lilly Atabekyan, Scripps Laboratories, Operations * Shelly Caltharp, Loma Linda Univ, Pathology and Human Anatomy * Keith Danielson, Thomas Jefferson Univ, Orthopedic Res * Joseph Menonna, VA Bio Med Center * Laura Emond, Dartmouth Med School, Dept of Physiology * Robert Speth, Univ of Mississippi, School of Pharmacy * Seto Chice, SUNY HSC at Brooklyn



Gertrude “Gerty” Cori was born August 15, 1896 in Prague, Czechoslovakia. In 1914, at the age of eighteen, she enrolled in the German branch of the medical school in **Prague**. It was here that she found her two loves: biochemistry and Carl Cori. Carl and Gerty had much in common; they both loved mountain climbing, swimming, skating, and tennis. In 1922, Carl took a job at the New York State Institute for the Study of Malignant Diseases in Buffalo, New York and sent for Gerty six months later after he had secured a position for her as an assistant pathologist at the institute. By 1929, Carl and Gerty could explain how energy moves in a cycle from muscle to the liver and back again to muscle. In 1938 and 1939, Gerty shifted her direction of research towards **enzymology**. Soon after, the Cori’s discovered phosphorylase that breaks **glycogen** down into the Cori **ester**. It tears apart the bonds that hold glycogen’s sugar molecules together. This was the first time that **carbohydrate** metabolism was studied at the molecular level. By 1944, Gerty was promoted to associate professor and given tenure at Washington University. By 1947, the Cori’s lab was alive with the study of enzymes. Their lab produced eight Nobel Prize winners.

In 1947, Gerty was awarded the Nobel Prize along with her husband. They were the first husband and wife team to receive this award and Gerty was the third woman to receive a Nobel Prize in Science. In 1947, Gerty learned that she had a fatal type of **anemia**. After winning the Nobel Prize, she was elected to the National Academy of Science and appointed to the National Science Foundation by Harry S. Truman.